

workers and managers. At this point there is no ergonomics proposal, just ideas in draft form for tackling the single biggest source of injuries to American workers. Why in the world would we tell the agency not to try to figure out a cost-effective way to protect workers from carpal tunnel syndrome and back injuries?

Mr. Speaker, the DeLay amendment to delay protection for workers was reckless, counterproductive, and just plain stupid.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BIODIVERSITY

(Mr. GILCHREST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to bring to your attention two little known animals that are very important to the pharmaceutical industry in the United States. The existence of these animals brings new hope to high blood pressure sufferers and heart attack victims in this country.

First, high blood pressure sufferers look to the pit viper to provide an entirely new generation of extremely effective antihypertensives. Compounds found in the venom of these snakes have led to greater understanding of the human mechanism for maintaining blood pressure. However, number of pit viper species are threatened with extinction.

Second, the Houston toad, on the brink of extinction due to habitat loss, produces alkaloids which scientists believe may prevent heart attacks. These alkaloids also appear to have analgesic properties more powerful than morphine. The Houston toad is native to the United States.

At least 500 species and subspecies of plants and animals in the United States have become extinct since the 1500's. Could one of those long-gone species have held the cure to AIDS, cancer, or the common cold?

Let us reauthorize a workable Endangered Species Act.

STOP PICKING ON KIDS

(Mr. WYNN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I come to deliver a message from our luncheon on Sunday: Stop picking on kids.

Little 10-year-old Touissant Clemmens probably said it best, "Children have to say no to a lot of things. Food should not be one of them."

Mr. Speaker, I cannot for the life of me understand why we are cutting \$6 billion out of the School Lunch Program to provide tax breaks for the wealthy. I cannot understand why we are trying to replace a Federal bureaucracy with 50 State bureaucracies, and why that is a better idea. I cannot

understand why we are eliminating national nutrition standards.

Does someone want to go back to calling catsup a vegetable?

I am concerned, because these cuts are going to finance tax breaks for the wealthy. Fifty percent of the tax breaks go to families making over \$100,000, like Congressmen. I do not think we need a tax break.

Five hundred dollars per child for people making up to \$200,000? I do not understand why. Twenty percent of the tax cuts go to the wealthiest 2 percent of the people in this country.

Mr. Speaker, you like to talk about the average American. Well, I will tell you, when the average American citizen figures out we are taking money out of the mouths of children to pay for tax breaks for the wealthy, I think they are going to resent it. I think they are going to resent it all the way to the 1996 elections.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DOOLITTLE). The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House.

WELFARE REFORM BILL: NEW METHODS FOR COLLECTING FROM DEADBEAT PARENTS

(Ms. DUNN of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. DUNN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today we begin the process of overhauling a welfare system that traps millions of Americans, especially women and children, in an endless cycle of poverty and hopelessness.

One of the most crucial provisions of the Republican welfare reform bill provides new methods for collecting money from deadbeat dads and mothers. Right now these irresponsible parents in my home State of Washington owe over \$423 million, and \$34 billion is owed nationally to the children and the families.

This is money that, in many cases, could be used to keep children off welfare. These uncaring parents provide neither hope nor a bright future for their children. What these deadbeat parents do instead is three things: They evade their most basic responsibility by failing to support their own flesh-and-blood children, they force their own children into welfare, and they force you, the American taxpayer, to pick up the tab for their irresponsibility.

Mr. Speaker, they force the Government to become the parent.

Mr. Speaker, unfortunately the status quo welfare system provides little relief to the families trapped by delinquency of the deadbeat parents. The child-support provision of our bill,

which I am pleased to say has great bipartisan support, will begin the process of ending welfare as we now know it and putting our children first by requiring both parents to support their own children.

Mr. Speaker, I urge every Member to support this bill and the children.

INCREASE, NOT REDUCE, THE FOOD PROGRAM

(Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I went to the Henry Suder School in my district on last Friday for the School Nutrition Program, and while I was there, they gave me these paper dolls. They have been coming into the office over the last month or so. They are from various children who are at the school.

One little girl says, and this is to CARLISS COLLINS from Pearl Haye. It says,

Children need quality, nutritious foods to help them grow. If there is no balanced food, they won't be healthy. They will not become healthy citizens. I like to eat well, and I like to learn a lot of skills. Please, increase, not reduce, the food program so that all kids can benefit from it.

You know, it is really amazing to me when people talk about cutting \$60 billion out of the mouths of children. To snatch food right out of children's mouths is absolutely not comprehensible at all to me.

You know, I went to the school, and for lunch they had a little tray with a few little chicken fingers, french fries, a few carrots, an orange, and a carton of milk.

Why take that away from little kids? It does not make sense to do so.

MAKING GOVERNMENT LESS COSTLY AND LESS INTRUSIVE

(Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, straight from the Democratic Party propaganda room, I give you the Washington Post's latest poll that says the momentum of the Republican Contract With America is slowing down.

Mr. Speaker, it is polls like this and scare mongering by our opponents that has given America 40 years of one party rule, bloated budgets, arrogance, and a country on the verge of bankruptcy.

Are the Republicans cutting wasteful spending? Are we working toward a balanced budget? Have we begun to end the arrogance of Washington knows best? And are we working hard to keep our word to the American people? The answer is yes.

Our journey is a difficult one. Fighting the scare tactics of the "let's party on" crown has not and will not be easy. But the American people know better.

They may have been fooled when they voted for change in the 1992 election and ended up with the "let's party on" crowd's higher taxes, more Government spending, and a proposal for Government run health care.

But the 1994 election was different. And despite the naysayers who will fight our efforts every day preserving the status quo, we will succeed in cutting the waste and making Government less costly and less intrusive.

□ 1430

LET US KEEP THE FREE LUNCH PROGRAM

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday morning I went to Hawthorne School in Seattle and talked to the whole student body, 650 squirming kids, all of whom had taken a paper dinner plate and written a note to me about the school lunch program. The kids actually know what is happening. In Seattle, 47 percent of the students take part in the reduced or free lunch program. There were almost 430,000 lunches served last year.

In the next school year, with the cuts in this bill we are going to deal with over the next couple of days, Seattle will lose \$654,000. Now, that means the State legislature has got to pick up that amount. Some of my colleagues in my delegation pushed through an amendment that says it takes 60 percent to raise the taxes in the State of Washington. So how are you going to get that through?

But even more amazing, I picked up the Seattle paper, and one of my colleagues says we are going to save money by cutting regulations like that useless regulation that requires the schools to monitor the temperature of the milk. It is as though the Members on the other side never heard of the germ theory.

The reason you have cool milk being is to keep kids from getting sick.

Vote against this bill.

TITLE VII OF H.R. 4, CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, as one of the chief sponsors of the Family Reinforcement Act, I rise in strong support of the goals of the child support enforcement provisions in the Personal Responsibility Act.—Our welfare reform initiative.

The strength of America's families is of utmost importance to the future of this country. We must act quickly and decisively to restore, encourage and protect our most fundamental unit of American society.

I am here today to voice my support for the commonsense goals of H.R. 4:

reducing welfare dependency by ensuring that parents support their children; strengthening and streamlining the State-based child support system; and giving the States the tools they need to get the job done.

Too many single-parent families have had no where else to turn but to resort to Government support programs—and too many children go to bed hungry or do without—all because their dead-beat parents outrun the current bureaucratic and time-consuming child support collection system. This has got to stop. Republicans are working to change our child support collection system.

I applaud the child support enforcement goals of H.R. 4, and support its efforts.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

(Mr. STUPAK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, one of the most disturbing problems facing our society today is domestic violence. Violence against women exists in big cities, and it also exists in small, rural communities, like those in my district in northern Michigan. For many years domestic violence was not discussed in public, because people thought it was a problem that should be dealt with from within the home.

Statistics show that crimes against women are rising at a faster rate than total crime. Even more disturbing is the fact that more than two-thirds of violent crimes against women are committed by husbands, boyfriends, or acquaintances. In fact, thirty-three percent of American women who are killed, are killed by a boy friend or husband.

Recently, we have had reason for hope, because President Clinton took on the fight against domestic violence. Because of his leadership and support, the Violence Against Women Act was passed into law.

President Clinton is the first President to attack this problem head-on. He has created a special Violence Against Women Office at the Department of Justice to spearhead the effort to fight violence against women. Today, the President announced approximately \$26 million in STOP Grants to the States to fight violence against women.

I salute President Clinton's leadership in this fight, a fight which we all must join, to stop domestic violence.

TELL IT LIKE IT IS

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I have asked groups of people back home if the news media have explained to them that the Republican School Lunch Program is increasing by over 4

percent per year for 5 years or that we are increasing funding for WIC, Women Infants, and Children's Program, by over \$1 billion over 5 years? Their answer is they have not heard.

The Democrats started the lie about the cuts and the news media have compounded that lie. We are increasing funding for school lunch programs and also for WIC. I wish the other side would tell the truth, and likewise for the news media. It seems only Rush Limbaugh is telling the truth.

WELFARE REFORM IS NEEDED

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, welfare reform is needed. Let us have a real debate on welfare reform. We can require work. Let us set time limits on assistance for the non-disabled. Let us require job training. Let us do a better job on collecting child support. I think that needs to be done.

But this bill today is more than that. This bill is about cuts in assistance to children. And whether you call it cuts or, under the newspeak, we call it limitations on increases, the American people want welfare reform, but they do not want cuts in our school lunches.

Yesterday I had lunch at the J.P. Henderson Elementary School in Houston, TX. Those children enjoyed their lunch. We had a burrito, and I will have to admit it was harder for me to eat than it was for them to eat. But their lunch is important to them, as important as their school work, their room or their teachers, because a child who is hungry cannot learn. The American people understand that, and I hope people would understand in this Congress that they need to read their lips; they want welfare reform but they do not want cuts in school lunch programs, as this bill, H.R. 1214, will do.

WESTERN COMMERCIAL SPACE CENTER LEASE SIGNING

(Mrs. SEASTRAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, last Friday the 25-year lease agreement between the Department of the Air Force and the Western Commercial Space Center was finally signed. Although the agreement had been agreed upon in principle for months, it was nearly derailed by an overzealous civilian bureaucracy. In essence, what would have taken less than 30 days in the private sector took several months because of the arcane manner in which government tends to operate.

This lease agreement paves the way for construction to begin on the first polar orbit commercial spaceport in